

CLAIMS

- 5 1. A telecommunications services apparatus for use with a mobile telecommunications network, the apparatus comprising means for receiving a MAP Send Routing Information for Short Message (SRI_SM message) originating from another network and operable to forward the SRI_SM message to a home location register, means for receiving a response from the home location register to the SRI_SM message, means for temporarily storing information relating to the SRI_SM response and operable to pass said response on to a network address identified as the originating address, means for receiving a MAP Mobile Terminated Forward Short Message (MT_Fwd_SM message) from said another network and operable to correlate the MT_Fwd_SM message with a previously-sent SRI_SM response using stored information, the apparatus being operable to detect and selectively reject MT_Fwd_SM messages for which there is at least insufficient correlation between the MT_Fwd_SM message and the previously-sent SRI_SM response, and to pass other MT_Fwd_SM messages on to their respective destinations.
- 10 20 15 20 25 30 2. Apparatus according to claim 1, including means for modifying IMSI information in the SRI_SM response.
3. Apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said means for temporarily storing information is operable to store information relating to said modified SRI_SM response and operable to pass said modified response on to the originating address network.
4. Apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the correlation determination is made between the MT_Fwd_SM message and a previously-sent modified SRI_SM response.

5. Apparatus according to claim 2, claim 3 or claim 4, wherein the
IMSI modifying means is operable to replace the visitor location register
address in the SRI_SM response, the means for temporarily storing
information is operable additionally to store the original visitor location
5 register address, and the destination address is replaced by the stored
original visitor location register address before being passed on to the
respective destination.

10. 6. A telecommunications services method for use with a mobile
telecommunications network, the method comprising receiving a MAP
Send Routing Information for Short Message (SRI_SM message)
originating from another network and forwarding the SRI_SM message to a
home location register, receiving a response from the home location
register to the SRI_SM message, temporarily storing information relating to
15 the SRI_SM response and passing said response on to a network address
identified as the originating address, receiving a MAP Mobile Terminated
Forward Short Message (MT_Fwd_SM message) from said another
network and correlating the MT_Fwd_SM message with a previously-sent
SRI_SM response using stored information, detecting and selectively
20 rejecting MT_Fwd_SM messages for which there is at least insufficient
correlation between the MT_Fwd_SM message and the previously-sent
SRI_SM response, and passing other MT_Fwd_SM messages on to their
respective destinations.

25. 7. A method according to claim 1, including modifying IMSI
information in the SRI_SM response.

30. 8. A method according to claim 7, wherein said step of temporarily
storing information is operable to store information relating to said
modified SRI_SM response and operable to pass said modified response on
to the originating address network.

9. A method according to claim 8, wherein the correlation determination is made between the MT_Fwd_SM message and a previously-sent modified SRI_SM response.
- 5 10. A method according to claim 7, claim 8 or claim 9, wherein the IMSI modifying step is operable to replace the visitor location register address in the SRI_SM response, the step of temporarily storing information is operable additionally to store the original visitor location register address, and the destination address is replaced by the stored original visitor location register address before being passed on to the respective destination.
- 10 11. A computer program for implementing a method according to any one of claims 6 to 10.
- 15 12. A storage medium storing a computer program according to claim 11.